The TNA News

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February, 1975

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THE TNA NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Founded and Incorporated Under Texas Laws - 1960
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CONTENTS

President's Message 4
Candidates Named 5
Gresham's Law 6
The Errors of My Way 10
Latin American Numismatics 12
Texas Token Topics 15
Dear Mom – 17
Junior Readin' Roundup 20
From the First Vice President 21
From the Secretary 24
From the Treasurer 27
Events Calendar 29
Texas District Meetings 31

FEBRUARY

The March issue will be a reminder that TNA convention time is just around the corner. Aren't you anxious to know what's planned?

5th REMEMBER - The of March is the deadline for the April issue of TNA NEWS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Economists predict that in the fourth quarter of 1975 the economy will start an upward trend. This may well be, or this could be wishful thinking. This we do know — TNA has completed three quarters of the convention year and thus far there have been no signs of a recession in the enthusiasm, dedication or planning for the future. As the year nears a conclusion, may I urge each and every one to do several things NOW: (1) Pay your 1975 dues. Personally make inquiry of the club treasurer as to payment of club dues (2) Secure at least one new member for TNA. (3) Make your hotel reservations to attend the April TNA convention in Dallas.

✧

In Texas there are few coin shows in December, January and February. I wonder if some of the clubs that sponsor one-day shows in the fall when the calendar is full of two and three day shows, would not have better dealer attendance and probably better public involvement if set for those months.

✧

Each TNA member owes a debt of gratitude to the advertisers in TNA NEWS. May I urge all to support them. To the dealer members of TNA, I would like to see in your advertisements in the national publications — "Member TNA = ."

✧

All nominations for TNA officers for 1975-77 are in. You will be receiving your ballot. Place this high on your agenda — MARK YOUR BALLOT AND RETURN AT ONCE!

MINI '75

Do you wish to be included as a patron for the 1975 TNA NEWS in Miniature? If so, better get your name and money to the TNA NEWS Editor, Box 74, Weslaco, Tex. 78596 as fast as the slow mails will carry it.

In the past years, TNA has issued a convention booklet giving highlights of TNA history and other data. This novel and informative booklet is handed out to convention visitors and new TNA members.

Space is provided for Patrons (clubs, individual and special) at $2.50 per name. All proceeds are used to defray costs of publication and all donations are sincerely appreciated.

The Roosevelt dime was designed by John R. Sinnock and is the first portrait coin issued in the dime series. Both sides have a modern flare in design including the symbolic torch and oak and laurel sprigs.

CANDIDATES NAMED

The following nominees for officers and district governors to serve the Texas Numismatic Association for 1975-77, a two-year term, have been duly nominated. Nominations are now closed. Voting will be by mail ballot to be sent to each voting member by March 10. Ballots must be returned in the envelope marked "Official Ballot." Write-in nominations may be made providing that written consent of the nominee has been filed with the TNA secretary by March 10. Biographical data and photos were not complete on the announced candidates at press time.

PRESIDENT:
Col Charles A. Wingo - Denison

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:
Fred W. Clark - San Angelo
Cmdr. C. C. Andrews - Dallas

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:
Marvin Currie Jr. - Baytown

SECRETARY:
Molly Gerald - Port Arthur

TREASURER:
Stanford M. (Mac) Kennady - Austin

DISTRICT GOVERNORS:

DISTRICT I:
George W. Somers - Fort Worth

DISTRICT II:
August H. Ganze Jr. - Odessa

DISTRICT III:
Ellis H. Brooks - San Angelo

DITRICT IV:
Keith Johnson - Austin

DISTRICT V:
Barney K. Welch - Dallas

DISTRICT VI:
R. E. Bonilla - Houston

DISTRICT VII:
Ernest Price - San Antonio

DISTRICT VIII:
Wayne Harris - Corpus Christi

DISTRICT IX:
D. O. Joplin - Levelland

DISTRICT X:
No Nomination

DISTRICT XI:
R. L. Tompkins - Amarillo

DISTRICT XII:
No Nomination

DISTRICT XIII:
W. C. Williams - Wichita Falls

DISTRICT XIV:
No Nomination

DISTRICT XV:
Jerry Williams - Beaumont

DISTRICT XVI:
No Nomination

ED J. KANE DIES IN CC

Edward J. Kane, 59, passed away on December 16 in a Corpus Christi hospital. Mr. Kane had been ill for a long period.

Mr. Kane was a charter member of the southside Kiwanis Club, member of the Texas Numismatic Association, and had served as president for both the Corpus Christi and Liberty Coin Clubs.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Lois Kane; two sons; and one sister.

Exhibit Information

If you plan to exhibit at the Dallas TNA convention April 11-13, write for full particulars and an exhibit packet to:

Exhibit Chairman
Box 7673
Dallas, Tex. 75209

Gresham's Law

By J. P. JONES,
Waco, Texas

CONCLUSION

The discovery of gold in California in 1848 and in Australia in 1853 caused a rapid fall in the price of the yellow metal during the years 1848-1859. This resulted in an unprecedented flow of gold to United States mints and the only silver coins left in circulation were those that were so worn, that their nominal value exceeded their intrinsic value.

To prevent the disappearance of fractional silver coins from circulation, the subsidiary Coinage Act of February 2, 1853 reduced the fine silver content of the fractional silver coins by approximately 7%. Prior to 1853 the half dime, dime, quarter and half dollar had been fractional units of the dollar, each of which had contained an amount of pure silver proportionate to that of the silver dollar. By the Act of 1853 they became subsidiary coins and their legal tender status was limited to $5.

These were not, however, the first U.S. subsidiary coins, depending on which definition you accept. The half cents and cents were the first U.S. subsidiary coins with the silver three cent piece (1851--1853) being the first silver subsidiary coin. Under the Act of 1853 its silver content was raised from .750 to .900. The Act also discontinued the free coinage of silver except for the silver dollar. Thereafter, subsidiary silver coins would only be coined for the account of the Treasury.

The Act of 1853 had its desired effect, at least for the next eight years. So much so, that it created an oversupply of silver coins. The Act also ended actual bimetallism, because bimetallism provides for the free and unlimited coinage of two metals, which in the U.S. was gold and silver. In fact, has there ever been an instance of a country adopting bimetallism and using any metals other than gold and silver?

After having experienced an 8-year flood of subsidiary silver coins the U.S. was next to undergo a 17-year drought of silver and gold coins and an unprecendented deluge of inconvertible paper money. On January 1, 1862 the U.S. Treasury suspended the redemption of Treasury Notes in gold and silver coin and on February 25, 1862 began the issue of inconvertible United States Notes ("Greenbacks") which were declared unlimited legal tender for all debts public and private, except duties on imports, and interest on the public debt. Authorized by Acts of Congress, the total issue of these notes amounted to $449,338,902.

All of the above was the result of the Civil War and the operation of Gresham's Law. By June 27, 1862 the "Greenbacks" had depreciated, in relation to gold, to $0.9132 and in accordance with Gresham's Law had driven all of the gold coins from circulation. The value of these notes continued to depreciate and by July 1,

1862 all of the silver coins had vanished from circulation. As already noted, at one time during the Civil War, these notes fell to a record low of $0.35 on the dollar and were reminiscent of the earlier Continental Currency and the assignats of the French revolution.

When Congress passed the Coinage Act of 1873 it was intended as a revision and codification of the existing coinage laws. One provision of this act was later to become rather important politically as will be noted later. In order to aid the silver mining industry the act created a silver coin (the trade dollar) for use in the Orient and provided for its free coinage. The Act also gave the Trade dollar legal tender status in the U.S. up to $5. The weight of the Trade dollar was 420 grains, 7½ grains more than the standard silver dollar of .900 fine. A small charge was made for converting silver bullion into Trade dollars.

As the standard silver dollar was an almost unknown coin, due to the fact that the Act of 1834 had undervalued silver, and the U.S. was still on an inconvertible paper money standard, the demonetization of the standard silver dollar went almost unnoticed. However, three years later, when the price of silver began to plummet due to increased U.S. silver production, adoption of the gold standard by Germany, and the end to the free coinage of silver by the Latin Monetary Union, and other European countries, Congress on July 22, 1876 repealed the legal tender status of the Trade dollar and limited its coinage to such amount as the Secretary of the Treasury should consider sufficient to meet the export demand. A cry arose from the silver interests. At the time the coinage act was passed, the intrinsic value of the silver dollar exceeded its nominal value. By July 1876 the price of silver had fallen below the old mint price of $1.29 plus and the silverites realized that they could no longer take their bullion to the mint to be coined, which would have been extremely profitable. The Coinage Act of 1873 became the "Crime of '73."

The return to the free coinage of silver became an issue in every presidential campaign for the next 24 years until the adoption of the gold standard on March 14, 1900. The campaign for the return to bimetallism reached a fever pitch in 1896 when William Jennings Bryan delivered his famous "Cross of Gold" speech at the national Democratic convention. Bryan advocated the return of bimetallism at a 16 to 1 ratio, which would have been disastrous as the market ratio at that time was 30 to 1. The standard silver dollar was remonitized, however, by the Bland-Allison Act of 1878, but the Act did not provide for the free coinage of the silver dollar, nor did its successor, the Sherman Act.

In 1876 the redemption of fractional currency in subsidiary silver coins began. This was brought about by the fall in the price of silver. The Resumption Act of January 14, 1875 provided for the redemption of U.S. Notes in gold coin on January 1, 1879 and as the redemption date drew near, the premium on gold coins decreased. By December 17, 1878 in some instances, the notes were circulating at par.

The sub-treasury in New York City, in preparation for the redemption of "Greenbacks" had in its vaults gold coins in excess of $100,000,000. To their surprise on that long awaited day, only $132,000 in U.S. notes were redeemed. As soon as the notes became redeemable, they circulated alongside gold coins at par.

The Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890 which ordered the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase 4,500,000

ounces of silver bullion monthly, payment to be made in Treasury Notes, was the cause of this country's last encounter with Gresham's Law in the 19th century. These notes were declared unlimited legal tender for all debts public or private, and were redeemable on demand in gold or silver coins at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury. Secretary Windom chose to redeem these in gold as it was the policy to keep all currencies on par with gold.

From July 14, 1890 to November 1, 1893, the Treasury purchased 169,000,000 ounces of silver bullion in payment for which it issued $156,000,000 in Treasury Notes. During most of the period mentioned the U.S. and much of Europe were experiencing a depression and the price of silver continued to fall.

As the issue of the Treasury Notes increased, the public's confidence in the government's ability to redeem these notes in gold decreased Large numbers of these notes were presented for redemption in gold coin ($50,000,000 during the first four months of 1893) and it soon became profitable to export these coins. Bad money was driving out good. In 1890 the Treasury's gold reserve stood at $190,000,000. By April 1893 it had fallen below the legal minimum level of $100,000,000.

A vicious circle — purchasing silver bullion with Treasury Notes, redeeming the notes in gold coin and buying still more silver with these notes and again redeeming these notes in gold coin, etc. had developed. If this practice had continued it probably would have meant the complete substitution of silver for gold in the Treasury and led to payment by the government of all its obligations in a depreciated silver coinage.

The continued drain of gold from the Treasury and the end to the free coinage of silver, India caused President Cleveland on June 30, 1893 to call a special session of Congress. The Congress convened on August 7 and on the following day the President called for the repeal of the purchase clause of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act Following a heated debate both in the House and the Senate, the bill calling for the repeal of the purchase clause was passed and signed into law on November 1, 1893.

Of course, our most recent encounters with Gresham's Law was, first: The displacement of the .900 fine silver coins and silver certificates by a worthless clad coinage (reminiscent of the wretched brass of ancient Athens) and by Federal Reserve Notes, and second: The displacement of the 40% silver half dollars by these same clad coins and inconvertible Federal Reserve Notes.

It now seems that the U.S. will be spared the humiliation of an aluminum cent. Such a coin would no doubt be only the beginning and it is not totally unbelievable that we may someday have a plastic coinage like that of the Cocos-Keeling Islands as plastic has been considered as a substitute for copper in the cent.

An article on Gresham's Law would not be complete without including the most extreme case on record which occured in Japan in 1858. The most valuable Japanese coin was the kobang, an oval disc of gold approximately two inches long and 1½ inches wide, weighing 200 grams The kobang was passing current in Japan for four silver itzebus, but was worth in English money about 16 shillings 5 pence, whereas the silver itzebu was worth one shilling 4 pence Thus the Japanese were estimating their gold money at only

(Continued on page 13)

1975 TNA MEDAL NEWS

The seventh medal to be issued by the Texas Numismotic Association will feature the John Neely Bryan Cobin. The John Neely Bryan Cabin served as the first, and anly, Past Office in Dollas under the Republic af Texos 1843 - 1846. It also served as the first Caurthouse of Dallas Caunty. The reverse will be the same os lost yeor, the TNA emblem. There will be 175 sets struck in .999 fine silver in 10 gouge; diameter 39 mm; the edge will be reeded ond the silver medols serially numbered.

The sets will be haused in stamped halders ond certificates will be issued os in the post. These fine sets will sell far $17.50 each and the single branze medols for $1.50 eo. Persans who hove purchased sets in the past will hove first chaice and will be natified by letter os before. It will nat be necessary far those wha purchosed the twa-piece sets last year to write us, but they will need ta fill out the farm they receive in the moil ond return ta us as saan os passible. Anyane else wha wants a set and/or a branze medal please cantact Rager Earwaad, Bax 1852, Dentan, Tex. 76201 as saon as passible before the 1975 Dallas Convention.

In addition ta the above, yau may order a TNA sauvenir medal by writing Mrs. Miriam Gilmare at Bax 74, Weslaca, Tex 78596. They sell far $4.00 each; the abverse has the TNA emblem and yaur TNA number and name will be engraved an the ather side. If any extra lettering is desired, please add 10c far each letter ar number ather than yaur nome and TNA number.

THE ERRORS OF MY WAY

— A NEW FIELD —

Researched, Discussed & Presented
By: L. G. Davenport,
Edinburg, Texas

IN THE BAG

L. G. Davenport

Quite often when showing some of my collection of mint errors, I am asked "Where do you get such coin?" The answer to that is not unlike a similar question about how one accumulates a regular collection of coins. One has to search in the right places. Dealers are my main source because of the king of errors I am searching for; but many mint errors can be plucked from circulation. Another route I take in my quest for additions is via the mint sewn bags.

Also quite often, I have been approached by someone wtih a coin that has been described as having been taken from a sealed bag from the bank. The implication is that if it came from a bank in a sealed bag, it has to be an authentic mint error. More often than not these coins are definitely not authentic mint errors, but are the results of abuse.

There are several ways that coins are bagged for handling by local banks and that is our subject for discussion this month.

The only sealed bags that a bank handles that one can be certain that have not been searched through are those received from the mints via the Federal Reserve banks. These bags are known as "mint sewn bags." They are sewn across the top with

a portable hand sewing machine by a mint employee. Coins are never wrapped at the mints; they are counted into a canvas bag loose and then sewed up. Mint sewn bags are illustrated elsewhere in this column. Note that they lay flat like a small pillow and are easily stacked. Once the bags have been sewn and stacked, they are ready to be distributed to the Federal Reserve banks. Mint sewn bags arriving at the FRB may be opened and run through machines for wrapping or they may be sent to local banks intact. If they are opened at the FRB and the coins are wrapped, the machines will reject the mis-shaped mint errors of consequence. Off center struck coins struck slightly off center, or to a point that does not cause a dramatic misshape have been known to pass through these machines and be wrapped into rolls, but this is rather unusual.

Coins wrapped at the FRB are placed in bags and sealed to be sent on to the local banks. They may use a bag from a mint to seal the coins in, but the method of sealing will be entirely different. The bag will be gathered at the top and a cord with a loop and a lead seal will be placed around it, drawn shut, and the lead seal will be crimped, sealing it shut. An illlustration of this type of bag is also included. Note the difference in appearance of this type of bag from the mint sewn ones.

Federal Reserve bags of coins may contain wrapped or loose coins. They may be circulated or uncirculated depending on various circumstances. The point here is that coins from the FRB may or may not have been searched through.

Local banks also accumulate a surplus of coins at times and will seal them in bags identical to the way FRB do. These bags are sent to the FRB which in turn are shipped to other local banks as needed.

Federal Reserve Banks, local banks, and even various companies advertise by putting their names on bags used to transport coins. Certain vending machine operators, telephone companies, municipalities, etc.—people who handle large amounts of coins use these sealed bags for banking coins. Coin bags used may have all kinds of names on them. They may be bags from any of the U.S. mints, FRB, local banks, or various companies, but all sources outside of the mints, seal bags with a loop around the top that gathers the bag opening together. Only U.S. mints sew their bags closed. These are the only bags that contain coins directly from the mint that anyone can be sure that have not been searched through or altered. All sorts of things can and do happen to coins outside the mint that can confuse the inexperienced error collector. It also logically follows that even though coins may not have been searched for errors, dates, etc., circulated coins are exposed to damage or alteration outsde the mint.

While on the subject of abused and mutilated coins, there are a couple of things that should be mentioned. Most people who have knowledge about mint errors are happy to share that knowledge with others. That includes me also, but there are some drawbacks. Very often when I am approached by someone with a coin and questions about it, I find that the coin is not an error. At times it is difficult to tell the owner that his "strange and valuable" coin is the result of work done on it outside the mint, especially if the coin belongs to one of the younger collectors. Seldom, but on a few occasions, I have even had people to get indignant when told their coins were not mint errors. The fact re-

(Continued on page 38)

LATIN AMERICAN NUMISMATICS

BY: BRENT BROWN

With the Department of the Army, Schwabisch, Gmund, Germany

WILDLIFE ON LATIN AMERICAN COINS

In this series we have discussed the Andean condor as it appears on the coinage of independent Chile. This month we will discuss wildlife found on the coinage of the other Latin American Republics.

Brent Brown

The famous Mexican eagle or caracara has been used in many styles on Mexican coinage including federal, state and revolutionary issues, and is still used as the reverse design for all Mexican coins. The current coins have a stylized eagle facing left. He, as always, is perched on a cactus. The eagle has always been a popular motif on Mexican coinage because of its association with the founding of Tenochtitlan, the Aztec capital city. A detailed study of the caracara on Mexican coinage can be found in the A.N.A. volume **Modern Foreign Coinage.**

A bird of exceptional beauty and rarity is the quetzal, a tropical bird with long tail feathers which is found in southern Mexico and Central America. It was highly honored by the Mayan Indians as a symbol of independence since they could keep it alive in captivity only for very brief periods. The Indians also prized it for its beauty. The quetzal has appeared on Guatemalan coinage since 1873 and is also the name of the current monetary unit of the Republic of Guatemala. It has been used as part of the reverse design on one half, one, two, and four reales; one, two, five, ten, twenty-five and fifty centavos; one peso; and $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, one, five and ten quetzales coins. These designs all show the quetzal from a side view and many of these issues feature a seated liberty as the obverse design. The one and two centavos of 1943-1944 display the bird in a stylized frontal view with the design taking up most of the reverse. The remainder of the design includes the legend "REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA" and the date.

Three issues of Guatemalan $\frac{1}{4}$ reals struck from 1859-1869, 1887-1888, and 1892-1893 have a rampant lion on the obverse of the coin. The design is similar to the Spanish $\frac{1}{4}$ real of the colonial era.

The llama, a large domesticated species of the camel family, appears as part of the reverse design of Bolivian coins. Fossils show that the llama has been in South America for many centuries. The Inca Indians depended heavily upon the llama. They used him to carry burdens, as food, as sacrifices in religious ceremonies, for their wool and fiber, and the dung was used for fuel in the high Andes mountains where wood is scarce. No wild populations of llama exist today. The animal is still used by highland natives from Peru to Argentina. Only males over three years old are used as pack animals. A 200 pound llama can carry 100 to

130 pounds for three weeks averaging 15 to 20 miles per day. High thirst tolerance, endurance, and the ability to live on little vegetation makes the llama an excellent animal for traveling the Andes. They are hard working and loyal but will refuse to move when exhausted

An alternate reverse design on Bolivian coins pictures an eagle resting on the national arms either in a position resembling the bird in flight or a spread-eagle design. An eagle has also been used on the reverse design of several Colombian coins. The eagle appears in a spread-eagle design on fifty centavos and one peso struck from 1862-1886.

The Republic of Paraguay adopted a lion as an obverse pattern on the ½ real of 1845: on the 5, 10 and 20 centavos design appears on recent issues of 10, 15, 25 and 50 centimos. The lion is shown sitting, facing front, with a pole holding a liberty cap in the back of the design. The legend "REPUBLICA DEL PARAGUAY" and the date also appear on the reverse.

Peru's national arms include a shield which has a cornucopia, a tree and the llama. This design appears on Peruvian coins as early as 1863 and has appeared on almost every coin since then. From 1966-1968, ½ and one Sol de Oro coins were struck which have the llama and the value on the obverse. The reverse features the legend "BANCO CENTRAL DE RESERVA DEL PERU," the date, and the national seal which also includes the llama. The llama therefore appears on both the obverse and the reverse of the coin. A Peruvian 10 soles coin struck in 1969 faetures two stylized fish on the obverse.

Several coins struck in Uruguay show a jaguar walking in front of a setting sun as the reverse design. This design can be found on 10 centesimos coins of 1930 and 1936, and the one peso coin of 1942.

GRESHAM'S LAW —

(Continued from page 8)

about one third of its value, as estimated according to the relative values of the two metals in other parts of the world. The first European traders, realizing the Japanese had overhauled their silver coinage, brought up large quantities of kobangs and sold them in the world market, trebling their investment. At last the Japanese realized what was being done and withdrew the remaining kobangs from circulation.

Money, as well as being a convenience and medium of exchange, is a commodity just as soybeans, oats, corn, etc. and despite laws prohibiting the melting and/or exporting of it, it will flow to the market or country where it commands the highest premium. Just as it is impossible to halt the flow of precious (and today it seems also base) metals, whether in the form of bullion or coin, to a better market.

I wish to thank Professor G. E. Warren, head of the Department of Economics & Business, De Pauw University, for his help and encouragement without which this article would not have been possible. I also wish to thank Professor Charles L. Prather of the University of Texas and Richard D. Irwin Inc. Publishers for permission to reproduce the illustration from Professor Prather's book "Money and Banking" and George Allen & Unwin Ltd. Publishers for permission to quote passages from Professor Gilbert Murray's translation of Aristophanes "The Frogs" and "The Ecclesiazusae."

We Invite You To Share In Our Success Story By Consigning Your Collection For Future Auctions

★ SOME OF OUR PAST AUCTIONS:

● The Jose T. Medina Collection - Tho famous Chilean author and numismatist whose collection was recorded in 21 numismatic volumes.

● Our Tenth Anniversary Auction (1971) - Worldwide coins, medals, tokens, and paper money, including a number of Latin American rarities.

● The King Farouk of Egypt Collection of Banknotes accompanied by a second volume of choice and rare coins, medals, and tokens of the world.

● The largest and most diversified numismatic sale on record was the 5001 Lots of selected coins, medals, and rare currency of the world including the Robert Gordon collection of European medals related to the Americas, which was at one time owned by Medina, but consigned to us by Robert Gordon.

★ SOME OF THE PRICES WE HAVE OBTAINED: We can guarantee top prices for extremely rare material. Some examples are:

● The three Mexico 3 Real pieces of Carlos and Johanna, which realized $15,600 in our King Farouk Sale - Part II.

● $1,950 was obtained for a silver medal featuring on the obverse George III and on the reverse two rampant lions. This medal commemorates the determination of England to continue the war with America to the bitter end. Nevertheless, independence came a year later. (Betts #584, Medina #164)

● In our 5001 - lot sale, $3,300 was obtained for a Costa Rica 8 Reales 1831 with assayer "E".

SHOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN CONSIGNING YOUR COLLECTION OR A SEGMENT OF YOUR COLLECTION FOR AUCTION, FEEL FREE TO WRITE, WIRE, OR CALL US. WE ARE READY AND WILLING TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOU. OUR COMMISSIONS ARE IN LINE WITH THOSE CHARGED BY OTHER AUCTIONEERS, AND THERE ARE NO HIDDEN CHARGES. WE CAN ASSURE YOU THAT YOU WILL NOT GET BETTER OR MORE COURTEOUS, FAIR TREATMENT FROM ANYONE ELSE. DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO OUR NEW LOCATION (STILL DOWNTOWN SAN ANTONIO.)

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TEXAS TOKEN TOPICS

Interesting - Unusual

BY: JAMES L. RUHLAND
Vidor, Texas

CORDELE, TEXAS 1897-1969

There are many Texas tokens from long lost ghost towns, but it isn't very often that the whole history of these towns is available Besides that, it seems unusual in our expanding world that a new ghost town would be born in 1969.

The following information about Cordele, Texas is taken from a letter I received several years ago from Fred Goppert of Cordele. Mr. Goppert is the son-in-law of A. H. Nagel who is mentioned quite often in the following:

"In 1896 A. H. Nagel and his brother Rudolph came to Cordele to see about buying some land. The store building that is pictured here was

GHOST TOWN MEMORIES—The store and post office pictured above was located at Cordele, Tex. The photo was taken in 1946. It is the same building that A. H. Nagel saw when he visited Cordele in 1896 with only the two-shed room having been added since. The electric gas pump replaced the old hand pump in 1946 also. Below are the Nagel 5c and 25c tokens. Both have the standard Ingle system reverse design that was patented in 1914, and used to prevent counterfeiting of tokens.

already in use as a store in 1896. The shed rooms on each side of the main building were added in 1916. In 1896 the store was operated by J. W. Baton. The Nagels didn't stay long in Cordele, but A. H. Nagel returned in 1904 and bought out the general store and took possession on January 1, 1905.

"There was no post office at Cordele during Mr. Nagel's 1896 visit, but the following year (1897) a man and his wife arrived from Cordele, Ga. He, and with the aid of other people in the area, petitioned and got a post office. The new post office was named after Cordele, Ga. The first post office was located in a tent that was boarded up on the sides. The post master at the time was a Mr. Stapleton. In a few months it was transferred to a man named Bruce who moved the post office to another house. In 1899 the post office was again moved. This time to Mr. Baton's general store at which location it stayed until the post office at Cordele was closed down for good in 1969 having operated in the same building for over 70 years.

"A. H. Nagel was confirmed as post master March 9, 1905. Besides being the post master he also operated the general store until his death in June 1937. Mrs. Fred Goppert was confirmed as post mistress August 1, 1937 and held this position until she retired in 1969.

"Being unable to find anyone else to take over the post master job or to operate the general store, the post office and store were both closed in 1969 marking an end to Cordele, Texas Zip code 77953.

"A H Nagel used trade tokens in conjunction with his business beginning in 1914 He had a supply of tokens made up in denominations of 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c, $1, $5 and $10. These tokens were used at a time when there were a lot of 1/3 share croppers farming in the area that had to be financed from year to year. The land owners would furnish these share croppers with groceries and other supplies. In order to have some help in carrying these accounts Mr. Nagel would sell the tokens to the land owners at the rate of $100 in tokens for $90 cash. These tokens could only be spent at Mr. Nagel's store. By doing this, the share croppers would buy groceries or other needed supplies with the tokens instead of moonshine which they might have purchased if they would have been loaned cash."

This is the method that tokens were often used by the old small town general stores. The use of tokens eliminated most of the bookkeeping problems associated with other forms of credit advances.

Like most all of the other old Texas tokens Mr. Nagel's tokens are nearly all gone now, and no one seems to know where they went to. I have only two pieces in my personal collection. Maybe one of these days a few more pieces will show up. Let's hope so.

PLEASE NOTE: WE ARE AGAIN REPEATING - DO NOT SEND CLUB NEWS, ADVERTISING COPY, COIN SHOW DATES, ETC. TO THE T.N.A. SECRETARY OR THE TNA NEWS PUBLISHER. DIRECT THIS MATERIAL TO THE EDITOR. DO NOT SEND DUES PAYMENTS OR CHANGES OF ADDRESS TO THE EDITOR, THEY SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY. YOUR REQUESTS WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF IN A MORE PROMPT MANNER BY SENDING IT TO THE CORRECT OFFICER. THANK YOU.

DEAR MOM - By Richard E. Bonilla Houston, Texas

R. E. BONILLA

Dear Mom,

Did you know that there is no Santa? No Easter Bunny? Did you know that in these days of inflation a penny saved is not necessarily a penny saved? Mom, all of my youthful illusions are being destroyed. Why, mom, I even found out that there have always been crooks in the hobby.

Way back, in the old days, even while Alfred the Great was founding the English kingdom, despite a remarkable lack of cooperation from the invading Danes, minters were playing interesting games with the monies that they coined: they cheated. Some took uncivil liberties with the composition of the precious metals, while others just plain short weighed their coins. Actually, some of them were the original moonlighters, mint workers who did their best work after hours. Such samples of private enterprise were not encouraged by the establishment and punishment was swift and to the point. By the 13th century you could actualy guage the honesty of the money makers of any kingdom by the number of unemployed one-armed minters in the realm.

When hand chopping, drawing and quartering, burning, and blinding proved to be a waste of time, not to say of minter's limbs and talent, some ingenious princes decided that the establishment and maintenance of coinage standard was the answer. So, they set up Assay Commissions. Along came England's Edward III (1327-1376) - - who may well have been heard to mutter under his breath: "Darn it, next Christmas I'm gonna have to give 40 power Nikkon microscopes to every merchant and to every peasant in the realm ere these bums drive me to the poorhouse" - - and he proceeded to make numismatic history by getting himself a law that stipulated:

"SO SOON AS THE MONEYS ARE COYNED AND COMPLEATE, THE WARDEN TO RECEIVE YT AS THE MASTER RECEAVETH YT FROM THE MONEYERS, AND PUTT YT IN ONE CHEST SHUT WITH TWO KEYS. AND BEFORE THE MONEYS BEE PAID TO THE MARCHANT, AT THE REQUEST OF THE SAID MASTER, THE WARDEN SHALL MAKSE A TRYALL OF YT, AND IF YT SHALL NOT BEE SO GOOD AS YT IS UNDERTAKEN, YT SHALLBEE RETORNED TO THE SAID MASTER TO BE REMOLTEN AT HIS OWNE PROPER COSTS"

Mom, before you say anything about Edward's spelling and style, please remember that he probably went to school on an athletic scholarship. Personally, I don't see much difference between the wording of Edward's Act and some of the efforts of my contemporary legislators.

But Edward's heart was in the right place. Anyway, the "tryall" or "Trial" worked like this: after every run the mint master dropped a few

coins into a locked wooden box, called a pyx. This box had two keys which were held by the mint master and the warden. Every so often these two citizens got together and selected a few coins at random which were then turned over to a panel of goldsmiths who were supposed to act as a jury of skilled assayers. This jury weighed the coins, melted a few of them to check their contents—and did some other things guaranteed to cause some anxiety producing moments at the mint master's home. Then they sent their findings to the king who determined if there would stilll be five fingers at the working end of the mint master's right sleeve.

With some refinements this practice has endured for 700 years. In England the Trial of the Pyx is now held every March by a jury that could well include the Barons of the Exchequer, The Lord Commissioners of the Treasury, assorted judges from their several benches, and - - always - - the top cats of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmith. Talk about job security....The Company has been involved in the Trial since 1248!

Relatively speaking, we Americans are late-comers to the assaying business. For one thing, we had to wait for Columbus to get lost at sea on his way to India; for another, we had to settle a basic difference of opinion with the descendants of the aforementioned Edward III. Anyway, eight years after the last Hessian had kissed goodbye to his colonial sweetheart, the United States mint was established on April 2, 1792 by an Act of Congress. This Act also provided for the Annual Assay Commission which has been ever since our answer to the English Trial of the Pyx.

And so, Mom, the relentless fight for sale money goes on. And if you don't believe it, tell that wise guy brother of mine to pass a counterfeit ten. He will have Secret Service men on his tail faster than he can say: 'the devil made me do it!"

Love,
Your, son, The Collector

Irving Man Is First Seminar Registrant

The first registrant for the TNA-OIN counterfeit detection seminar, April 11, 12, 13, Fairmont Hotel, Dallas, was Lowell K. Davis of Irving, Texas, who has sent his deposit of $55 to Virgil Hancock, co-ordinator of the seminar.

Each of these counterfeit detection seminars, which the Organization of International Numismatics (OIN) has been conducting around the country, has been "sold out" weeks before each seminar. Those who missed out on last year's TNA-OIN seminar should register early with Virgil Hancock, Box 936, Bellaire, TX 77401 ('phone 713-667-8158).

The registration fee is $110, of which $55 must accompany your application for registration and checks to be made payable to OIN. Since the class will be limited to 20 persons, it will be necessary to register early to insure participation in this seminar.

Added to the teaching staff this year will be Dr. Sol Taylor of Orange, Calif., who is on the administration staff of Chapman College. Col Robert Kriz, Kennedy Space Center allumnus, will be teaching again this year.

The Shield Type nickel was the first nickel 5c piece issued in the U.S. Rays appear on the coins of 1866 and 1867 and later in 1867 the rays were discontinued

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JUNIOR READIN' ROUNDUP

BY: DAVE CERVIN,
Amarillo, Texas

TNA Youth Chairman
ANA Texas Youth Representative

Again it is that time of the year to take time out from our quest for earning Roman coins and examine a subject very dear to all juniors, namely the competition for the two highest awards that juniors can win in Texas. Reference is made to the Junior Numismatist of the Year, and Junior VIP. Let us examine each and see how they are won.

Junior Numismatist for 1974! What an honor! The award will be presented at the 17th convention of the Texas Numismatic Association, April 11, 12, 13, 1975, at the Fairmont Hotel, Dallas. Our host: the Dallas Coin Club. The winner of this coveted award may experience a greater thrill at some future time in his or her (yes, this is definitely a bi-sexual competition) life, but not much more.

Now how is this top junior chosen? Well, juniors who have accomplishments to their credit in 1974 are nominated for this honor. And how are they nominated? Actually they can be nominated in several different ways: by club selection; by recommendation from a friend; or, now hold your breath, by nominating themselves. Does this sound a bit revolting to you? Does it sound like bragging? Well it certainly isn't?

Let us analyze this situation. If you were seeking a job (as all of you will soon do), it will usually be necessary for you to prepare a resume of your qualifications. And just who is best qualified to do this? There is certainly just one answer to this question, and that is YOU. Only you know all of your accomplishments and you are the best one to present them. You may, of course seek help in preparing this.

Do you brag when you do this? Well, you don't brag but you don't hide your light under the bushel either. Just tell all the facts as accurately as you can but don't hesitate to color things in your favor. You are entitled to do this and you owe it to yourself to speak favorably of yourself.

Now comes your $64 question. "How can I ever impress the judges? I've never attended a state show, and the best my plain little exhibit has ever gotten you was a second at our club show." Hold it. The judges have only a secondary interest in your trophies and ribbons. Even if you garnered the best in show at the ANA convention they wouldn't be highly moved. Don't misunderstand me. Winning at a coin show helps but, oh, so little. Then just what are the judges looking for? They are looking for that steady club worker who is ready to tackle any job that will promote numismatics. High on their list is the junior who will man the information desk, hour after hour, at the club show. Also high on their list is the junior who undertakes the chairmanship of some aspect of a coin show; or the junior who volunteers to distribute coin announcements at stores, shops and businesses. Very high are those who bring programs at club meetings. Possibly better than that is the junior who brings a program to his school class. This is missionary work and that is what the judges like: selling numismatics.

So don't give up. Hang on. Get

(Continued on page 37)

from the

first vice president

Texas Numismatic Association

Col. Charles A. Wingo
Rt. 2, Box 109
Denison, Texas 75020

One of the most important features of our annual TNA convention is the display of numismatic exhibits. These serve several useful purposes, among them being: it gives the collector an opportunity to display items of his collection to numismatists or non-collectors; it helps to educate the novice.

In addition to the above benefits, each exhibitor has an opportunity to win a beautiful silver service piece as an award for his efforts. There are three awards available in each of nine regular classes of exhibits, three junior awards, and at least two special awards: the Harvey Bruns Award for the Best Coins of Mexico exhibit, and the L. G. Davenport Award for the Best Numismatic Error exhibit.

If you haven't had the pleasure of preparing and displaying a numismatic exhibit, and then enjoying the comments and interest displayed by visitors as they view your material and work, then you have missed one of the greatest joys of collecting.

With our convention only two months away, you'd better write to our exhibit chairman for an exhibit application right now, and start preparing your display. Send your request to Edward E. Slade Jr., Box 7673, Dallas, Texas 75209. You'll be glad you did—and I'll see you at the awards breakfast!

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MEETING EVERY TUESDAY!
In the Corpus Christi area, there is a coin club meeting every Tuesday night with Corpus Christi and Liberty Coin Clubs meeting alternate Tuesdays, Wilson Tower, Exxon Conference Room, 10th Floor.
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Texas Numismatic Association

Mrs. Augusta Folda
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Tyler, Texas 75701

Welcome to members 2919-A-2943-C-160.

If approved, the following will become members March 1, 1975.

2988 David Lawrence, 110 Omaha Mall, Westroads, Omaha, Nebr. 68114. Thos. C. Bain.

2989 Foster P. Nash, Box 1046, Opelousas, La. 70570. Thos. C Bain.

2990 (D-6) John P. Hansen, 3046 Gulfcrest Dr., Apt. 8, Houston, TX 77017. Silver Dollars, Thos. C. Bain, Colin Tuttle.

A-2991 (D-6) Mrs. Theresa Hansen, 3046 Golfcrest Dr., Apt. 8, Houston, Tx. 77017. Foreign silver Proof coins. Augusta Folda.

2992 Emmett Harvey, 106 East 4th Ave., Onoenta, Ala. 35121, Amer. Coins, Gold, Silver. Thos. C. Bain.

2993 (D-5) Bob Merrill, Route 2, Box 142-9, Plano, Tx. 75074. Thos. C. Bain.

2994 Arthur C. Lester, Box 607, Camp Hill, Pa. 17011. Dealer. Thos. C. Bain.

2995 Lyn F. Knight, Box 1009, Kansas City, Kans. 66117, Dealer. Thos. C. Bain.

J-2996 (D-15) Marshall Devall, 2550 Date, Port Arthur, Tx 77640. General U S Silver & Gold. Jerry Williams.

2997 Chuck Furjanic, 1827 Murray Ave., Pittsburg, Pa. 15217. Dealer Thos. C. Bain.

REINSTATEMENT

2137 (D-3) Mike Dunigan, 2155 S. First, Abilene, Tx. 79605

DECEASED

704 (D-3) Coy E. Dillard, Box 527, Rocksprings, Tx. 78880. Nov 6, 1974

2130 (D-5) C. W. Coston, 4412 Caruth Blvd., Dallas, TX 75225. May 25, 1974.

RESIGNATIONS

2071 (D-4) Steve Heffington, Jr., Box 61, Manor, TX 78653.

2896 (D-15) Mrs. Frances H. Brite, 1925 Driskill, Beaumont, TX 77706.

1230 Wayne W. Davis, 2051 Evergreen Dr., Shreveport, LA 71108.

2818 (D-15) C. R. Anderson, Box 395, Vidor, TX 77662.

1817 (D-5) Miss Cora Dulaney, 6023 Morningside, Dallas, TX 75206.

2042 (D-3) Mrs. Gilbert Hinds, Box 1114, Baird, TX 79504.

2414 (D-1) Mark Pitcock, Box 29576, T.C.U., Fort Worth, TX 76129

2236 (D-14) Mrs. Oneta Grisham, Box 487, Los Fresnos, TX 78566.

DISBANDED

C-75 (D-14) Willacy County Coin Club, Box 487, Los Fresnos, TX 78566.

TNA AUCTION

Jess Peters of Decatur, Ill. will conduct the auction at the Texas Numismatic Assn. 17th convention in Dallas on April 11, 12, 13. If TNA members are interested in submitting coins or currency for auction or desire an auction catalog write to Peters, Box 123, Decatur, Ill. 62525

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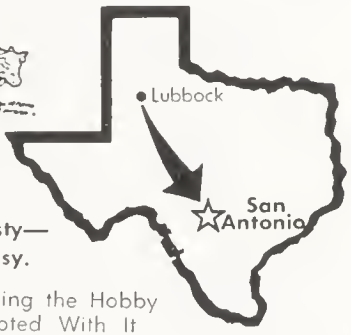

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Mr. Raul Rios
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BOURSE CHAIRMAN:
Mr. Larry Hanks
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from the treasurer

Texas Numismatic Association

Stanford M. Kennady

2901 Silverleaf Dr., Austin, Texas 78757

Balance on hand as of November 30, 1974		$2,732.50
RECEIPTS:		
TNA News Ads	140.50	
Sale of Copies of TNA News	2.00	
Sale of 1974 Convention Medals	7.50	
TNA Dues	517.00	667.00
		$3,399.50
DISBURSEMENTS:		
TNA News Editor - December Travel Allow. and November Petty Cash	110.00	
TNA Secretary - Petty Cash - Postage, etc.	74.90	
Banner Printing Co.	627.19	
Misc. Printing and Supplies	84.05	
November Issue - 1239 Copies	436.00	
Postage	89.60	
Engraving	17.54	812.09
		$2,587.41
Balance on hand as of December 31, 1974		$2,587.41
Operational Funds		$2,073.88
Encumbered Funds		513.53

NOTE: The following funds cannot be used for anything except the purpose for which they are encumbered. The above balance includes these funds except as noted below.

TNA Library Fund as of November 30, 1974	67.03
No Receipts - No Disbursements	-0-
Balance on hand as of December 31, 1974	$67.03
Case Fund as of November 30, 1974	446.50
No Receipts - No Dishursements	-0-
Balance on Hand as of December 31, 1974	$446.50
TNA News Continuance Fund Certificate of Deposit	$2,247.43

Uruguay Currency Book Is Released

Over 80 notes of Uruguay are illlustrated and 200 listed in the newly released book "**Uruguayan Paper Money**" by Dale A. Seppa. It was noted that the book is the most comprehensive work on Uruguayan paper money puhlished to date.

Retail price is $3.00 and may be ordered from Obol International, 8 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60603.

COPPER FOUND

Important copper deposits on the Pacific coast of Mexico 125 miles north of Acapulco have heen discovered according to a report from the Mexican government.

Preliminary geological reports indicate the deposits include 15 million tons of copper piritas, often referred to as "fool's gold."

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EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 15-16

CENLA COIN CLUB, 15th annual show, Bentley Hotel, Alexandria, La. **BOURSE:** Jay Randall, Box 4004, Alexandria, La. 71301.

✧

MARCH 2

LEVELLAND COIN CLUB, annual show, Women's Bldg., Fair grounds. **CONTACT:** D. O. Joplin, 212 Cypress, Levelland 79336.

✧

MARCH 15-16

CORPUS CHRISTI COIN CLUB, Collectors' Show, Exposition Hall. **BOURSE:** John C. Face, Box 8593, Corpus Christi 78412.

✧

MARCH 15-16

GREATER PORT ARTHUR COIN CLUB, 16th annual show. Thomas Jefferson High School cafeteria. **BOURSE:** Lloyd Buss, Box 3081, Port Arthur 77640.

✧

APRIL 11-13

TEXAS NUMISMATIC ASSN., 17th convention, Fairmont Hotel, Dallas. **HOST:** Dallas Coin Club. George F. Johnson, Gen. Chrmn., 1109 Woodcrest Dr., Garland, Tex. 75040.

APRIL 19-20

AMARILLO COIN CLUB annual show, Villa Inn. **BOURSE:** Lloyd Colvin, 2615 Wolflin, Amarillo 79109.

✧

APRIL 26-27

MIDWEST CITY COIN CLUB, annual coin & stamp show, Community Center, Midwest City, Okla. **BOURSE** Cecil Morris, Box 10983, Midwest City, Okla. 73110.

✧

MAY 10-11

KEY CITY COIN CLUB, 2nd annual Collectors' Show, Abilene Civic Center. **BOURSE:** D. R. Pratt, 2155 S. 1st, Abilene 79605.

✧

MAY 17-18

SOUTH PLAINS COIN CLUB, annual show, KoKo Palace, Lubbock. **WRITE:** Club, Box 106, Lubbock 79408.

✧

SEPTEMBER 6-7

SAN ANGELO COIN CLUB, annual show, Town House Motor Hotel. **WRITE:** Club, Box 87, San Angelo 76901.

✧

SEPTEMBER 20-21

AUSTIN COIN CLUB, annual Money Mart, Stephen F. Austin Hotel. **WRITE:** Club, Box 1225, Austin 78767.

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TEXAS DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT I:

G. W. Somers
Governor

New officers are now serving the **Arlington Coin Club** and include Francis Osmar, president; Chris Luke, vice president; Henry Clay, secretary-treasurer; and Bob Chapman, director. The 1975 officers were installed at the December meeting held at Arlington Daily News building with 15 attending.

Ideas were discussed to arouse interest in the club and to add new members to the roll. —**Chris Luke, Reporter.**

✧

A large crowd was present for the annual installation banquet in December held by the **Mineral Wells Coin Club**. The event was held at North Oak Community Center with George Somers, TNA District I governor, in charge of installing the 1975 officers: Raz Ford, president; J. W. Sparks, vice president; Alton Murphy, secretary-treasurer; and Mike Holub, reporter.

TNA Achievement awards were given to Carol Whittington for her past performance as club secretary-treasurer; Bill Whittington for his past work as vice president; Mike Holub for acting as club reporter; and Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Davis for providing refreshments. Special prizes were won by Charlie Foley, Thelma Doss, Wayne Robertson, J. W. Sparks, Billy Whittington and Dee Sparks.

During the business session, Somers was nominated for re-election as district governor. —**Mike Holub, Reporter.**

✧

A slide set from the TNA MEMORIAL LIBRARY was shown to five members of the **Graham Coin & Stamp Club** at the December meeting held at Texas Electric Reddy Room. The set consisted of odd shaped coins and several club members displayed some.

The club is making plans to participate in the Jacksboro, Texas centennial in June by placing numismatic exhibits. The next meeting was to be held in the home of Mrs. Wm. Rust. —**Hellen Rust, Reporter.**

✧

DISTRICT III:

Bob Neely
Governor

A dinner party at the Inn of the West was held for members of the **San Angelo Coin Club**. Fred Clark installed the 1975 officers and included Mrs. Verna Vautrain, president; Jerry James, first vice president; Harold J Wunsch, second vice president; Mrs. Howard Coleman, secretary; Wilson P Korona, treasurer; Mrs. J. C. Lynn, historian; and Ellis Brooks, TNA representative.

John Smoot presented awards to the outgoing officers and for the year's best program which was voted

on as "Military Pay Certificates." Forty seven were present for the event. —**Verna Vautrain, Pres.**

✧

Members of the **Key City Coin Club** of Abilene are planning their annual Collectors' Show on May 10-11 at the Abilene Civic Center

D. R. Pratt will be in charge of the bourse and he may be contacted at 2155 S. 1st, Abilene 79605.

✧

DISTRICT IV:

Keith Johnson
Governor

Thirty three members and guests attended the December meeting of the **Austin Coin Club** held at Wyatt's Cafeteria New officers elected are Joe Dianovich, president; Jim Martin, vice president; Lyman Bartee, secretary-treasurer; Keith Johnson, curator; Ray Kirkpatrick and Joe Scott, directors. Bob Fitzgerald, outgoing president, was presented a silver past president's medal.

The TNA and ANA representatives urged each one to pay 1975 dues as each organization will hold an election for new officers. —**Lyman Bartee, Sec.**

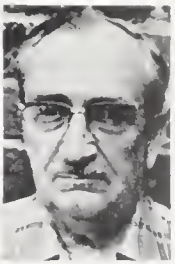
✧

The **Waco Coin Club** met in December at T.P. & L. Center for the regular meeting and Christmas party Thirty six members and guests attended, enjoyed refreshments and exchanged numismatic gifts

An auction was held and J. P. Jones, secretary, was given a plaque naming him a Life Member of WCC. —**J. P. Jones, Sec.**

✧

DISTRICT V:



C. C. Andrews
Governor

Highlighting the annual Christmas dinner meeting of **Numismatics International** of Dallas in December was the installation of newly elected officers. Installed were Ross Schraeder, president; Richard C. Upton, vice president; Don Douglas, secretary; and Carl Young treasurer

The dinner meeting was held at the Royal Tokyo Restaurant in Dallas. Those in attendance, according to oriental customs, removed their shoes in the garden area before entering the private tearoom.

Numismatic Achievement awards were presented to NI members who had presented programs during 1974 and to those submitting articles for the NI Bulletin, the organization's monthly publication. —**Marvin Fraley, Publicity.**

✧

Following a social hour at the Dallas Press Club, 47 members and guests attended the **Dallas Coin Club's** Christmas dinner party in the English

✧ ✧ ✧

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News Editor

Room of the Baker Hotel. Mrs. Pauline Boone provided table decorations and favors.

T. Homer Brooks installed the 1975 officers and they are: George F. Johnson, president; E. E. Boone, vice president; and LCdr. C. C. Andrews, secretary-treasurer.

Dr. Arthur A Smith, retired senior vice president and economist, First National Bank of Dallas, talked on the current complex inflation-recession situation and gold. His comments were that the country was in this situation because managed money had been mismanaged. He spoke of the future and said that what happens depends on how and when our money systems are brought under control.

In speaking about gold, Dr. Smith said that many banks will have gold coins, wafers and bars available for sale and will also handle gold on a consignment basis.

Attendance prizes were won by Frances O. Landon, Mrs. Thomas C. Bain and E. E. Slade. —**C. C. Andrews, Sec.**

✧

Five members of the **Texomaland Coin & Stamp Club** of Denison-Sherman had records of 100% attendance at club meetings during 1974 and received awards from James Cole, club president. Those receiving U.S. proof sets were Lawrence Massey, Lynn Mathis, Jess Malvern, John Megginson and Charles Wingo. Malvern was also honored for his outstanding work in arranging, preparing and serving the food at the club's annual Christmas party.

A committee composed of Wingo, Massey and Paul Ryon was appointed to make recommendations regarding the selection and presentation of numismatic publications to area libraries.

All club officers were re-elected and installed. They are James Cole, president; Lynn Mathis, vice president; and John Megginson, secretary-treasurer. Charles Wingo was elected TNA and ANA representative and publicity chairman. —**Charles Wingo, Publicity.**

✧

DISTRICT VI:

Marvin Currie
Governor

A "standing room only" crowd was reported by the **Greater Houston Coin Club** at the December meeting and Christmas party.

Chris Johns was in charge of the refreshment hour and special prizes were given for games, drawings and coin quizes. The grand prize of a 1971 Panama 20 balboa was won by C. C. Hutchinson. Each member received a 1975 coin calendar with club meetings marked. —**Colin Tuttle, Jr. Gov. Dist. 6.**

✧

La Marque Coin Club members enjoyed a covered dish supper and entertainment in December and a gift exchange was held.

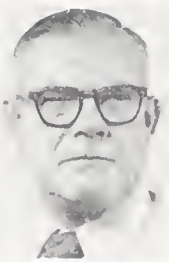
Special prizes were won by Hugh Threlkeld and Charles Mitchell. —**Ruby Threlkeld, Sec.**

✧

Members of **Galveston County Coin Club** of Texas City held their Christmas party in December at Nessler Center. Mrs. I. K. Richardson was chairman for the event assisted by other club members.

A covered dish supper was held followed by games and gift exchanges. Special awards went to Hugh Threlkeld and Helen Stodderer. —**Ruby Threlkeld, Reporter.**

DISTRICT VIII:



John C. Face
Governor

Plans are progressing for the annual Collectors' Show hosted by the **Corpus Christi Coin Club.** The show will be held March 15-16 at Exposition Hall and those interested in further information may contact John C. Face, Box 8593, Corpus Christi 78412.

Club members nominated Wayne Harris as governor for District 8. The retiring governor is John Face.

At one of the recent meetings, C. H. Roberts gave a program entitled "The Bride, Bridegroom and the Mother-In-Law." Roberts discussed Elizabeth, daughter of Duke Maximilian and Duchess Ludovica of Bavaria; Franz Josef, Kaiser of Austria from 1848-1916; and Archduchess Sophia, mother of Franz Josef — **Club Bulletin.**

✧

DISTRICT IX:

D. O. Joplin
Governor

An honorary membership plaque was presented to Bob Medlar by the **South Plains Coin Club** of Lubbock. Clarence Scott accepted the award in the absence of Medlar.

At the December meeting held at the K-Bob Restaurant, a benefit auction was held and the proceeds of $144.00 was given to Texas Boys' Ranch. —**D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.**

✧

The Great Plains Boys' Ranch of Petit, Tex. benefitted from a donation auction held at the December meeting of the **Levelland Coin Club.** Donations of cash, merchandise and coins were made by the town's business firms and individuals. The auction netted $275.00.

Twenty five members and guests from surrounding cities gathered at the Spot Restaurant for the meeting and auction. —**D. O. Joplin, Gov. Dist. 9.**

✧

DISTRICT XIII:

W. C. Williams
Governor

The Christmas motif was used in decorations for the annual dinner party hosted by the **Wichita Falls Coin & Stamp Club** held at Furr's Cafeteria. Sixty five attended the party and gifts were exchanged.

Mrs. Peter Defer was party chairman assisted by Mrs. Lee Bardwell, Mrs. Jean Patterson, Mrs. G. M. Howard and Peter Defer. Major James R. Borger spoke on his experience while a prisoner of war in North Vietnam —**B. Howard, Publicity.**

✧

DISTRICT XIV:

L. G. Davenport
Governor

Members of the **Hidalgo Coin Club** celebrated the club's 13th anniversary of organization with a special party and games night at the January 2 meeting. Only two of the 50 charter members were present for the occasion—Miriam and Wally Gilmore.

New officers took over during the short business session. Ralph Cron is the new president. Miriam Gil

more, vice president; Virginia Armstrong, secretary; and Annette Fortson, treasurer.

✧

DISTRICT XV:

Jerry Williams
Governor

A banquet and meeting was arranged for members of the **Greater Port Arthur Coin Club** for December held at Bonanza Sirloin Pit. Plans were also discussed for the annual coin show on March 15-16 at Thomas Jefferson High School cafeteria. Lloyd Buss is bourse chairman and reservations may be made through him at Box 3081, Port Arthur 77640.

New club officers include Tom Cobb, president; George May, first vice president; Kenneth Covington, second vice president; Linda Cobb, secretary; and Bettie Ford, treasurer. **—Club Bulletin & Jerry Williams, Gov. Dist. 15.**

✧

Jess Bachelder heads up the **Beaumont Coin Club** as president for 1975 and is assisted by Kent Lee, vice president; and Mrs. Stout, secretary-treasurer. **— Jerry Williams, Gov. Dist. 15.**

✧

New officers have been elected for the **Orange Coin Club** and include J. R. Bilwich, president; Doug Hale, first vice president; Mr. May, second vice president; and Ed White, secretary-treasurer. **—Jerry Williams, Gov. Dist. 15.**

✧

NEIGHBOR CLUBS:

Douglas Gardner, president of the **Lafayette, La. Coin Club**, spoke to the group at the December meeting on odd and curious money. Gardner showed a collection of these items.

New officers were to be elected and announced. **—Club Bulletin.**

✧

February 15-16 are the dates set for the **Cenla Coin Club** 15th annual coin show to be held at the Bentley Hotel in Alexandria, La. For more information write Jay Randall, Box 4004, Alexandria, La. 71301.

SNM To Host 1975 Mexico Convention

The Sociedad Numismatica de Mexico will play host to international numismatists during its 1975 coin convention set for March 13-15 at the New Hotel del Prado. Duane D. Douglas is general chairman and Clyde Hubbard is in charge of bourse.

Events planned during convention time include a visit to Chapultepec Castle Museum, the Numismatic Museum of the Bank of Mexico and a tour of the old Mexico mint.

If more information is desired, write to Duane D. Douglas, Eugenia 13 Desp. 301, Mexico 18, D.F., Mexico.

Important Notice

Hotel rate cards are available for the 1975 TNA convention to be held April 11-13 at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas. The special room rates are available ONLY through use of the official card. Request your special rate card from Thos. C. Bain, 3717 Marquette Dr., Dallas, Tex. 75225 or any TNA officer.

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WILSON F. WALTERS,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUNIOR READIN' —

(Continued from page 20)

yourself nominated or nominate yourself. Send nominations to me, Dave Cervin, 6201 Adirondack, Amarillo, Tex. 79106. They **must** reach me by March 15. Oh, yes, don't forget to include the Roman coins you have earned, describing how you won them. And if you have written anything that was published be sure and not only mention this but include a copy of the publication.

Now then what about the Junior VIP. As you might suspect, VIP means Very Important Person. And the junior who wins this is truly a very important person as he or she is making a most valuable contribution towards the greater growth and life of TNA. You see this award goes to that junior who signed up the most members to TNA. Last year's winner was Andrea Peppard who was hardly a novice at winning this trophy. This accolade has been up for grabs only three times, and Andrea has won it every year. What a record! What we need here is some genuine male chavinism.

Now for one short item of unfinished business. The July, 1974 **TNA News** asked this question: Would the junior competition be improved if broken by age groups rather than by categories? No juniors commented on this question. However, three adults did, and they were unanimous in the support of age groups rather than by categories. The agreed age groups are: 12 and under, 13, 14, 15 and 16, 17. I concur in this proposal. For what it is worth, this recommendation is passed on to the TNA Board of Directors.

Pat Johnson

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THE ERRORS OF MY WAY —
(Continued from page 11)

mains however, that I will always give an honest answer even if that answer is "I don't know." There are many experts in the field who have a vast knowledge of mint errors. Unfortunately I am not one of them, but I do share something with them; that is the fact that no one has all answers. That is one of the reasons that the hobby holds my attention.

My advice to anyone buying mint errors is to be cautious. Often, phrases like—"I've had it for years" or "It came from a sealed bag" or even "It came from a mint sewn bag" tend to lend credibility, but always be on guard. Know who you are dealing with. There are several people who authenticate error coins for free. All that is required is postage and insurance. If the coin is worth buying, the time it will take to have it authenticated will not cause a loss of value, and it will definitely be worth the nominal expense. This, of course, is good advice concerning the purchase of any coin with much value attached to it.

Due to circumstances beyond my control, this will be the last of my articles for the time being. Maybe at a later date "The Errors of My Way" will appear in the TNA NEWS once more.

In the meantime—get that numismatic error exhibit ready for our TNA convention in April. This will be the second year that this special award will be given. The TNA NEWS editor, Miriam Gilmore, a beginner in collecting errors, was the first recipient of the **L. G. Davenport Numismatic Error Award**. I hope to see many, many exhibits entered in this division.

✧ ✧ ✧

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5. Error adjustment restricted to one free insertion.

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1816-JJ 8 Esc. Ferdin VII, FR-52, H-51, EF — 1,395.00

1736-MF 4 Esc. Philip V., FR-9, H-3, F/VF — 1,295.00

1773-FM 4 Esc. Carol III, FR-34, H-31, very rare date Once on bracelet, still a nice F/VF+ — 2,200.00

1804-TH 4 Esc. Carol IIII, FR-44, H-41, VF — 1,250.00

1823-JM 4 Esc. Iturbide I, FR-61, H-56, nice VF/F — 2,250.00

1760-MM 1 Esc. Carolus III, FR-28, H-21, once on bracelet, crude but rare F+ — 1,400.00

1839-Go PJ 4 Esc. Hand over Book, FR-83, H-90, Fine — 700.00

1870-C 20 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-119, H-145, Ch UNC — 1,700.00

1900-M 20 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-119, H-145, AU/UNC — 1,295.00

1874-Do.M 10 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-132, H-132, EF — 1,150.00

1872-Oa E 10 Pesos, Balance Scale, minor scratches, FR-136, H-137, a real nice AU — ,1350.00

1871-M 5 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-139, H-127, repaired, 1,600 minted, Ch EF — 245.00

1872-M 5 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-139, H-127, 1,600 minted, nice AU — 650.00

1900-M 5 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-139, H-127, 1,014 minted, Abt. UNC — 695.00

1902-M 5 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-139, H-127, 1,478 minted, Ch EF/AU — 695.00

1904-M 5 Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-139, H-127, 1,415 minted, Ch UNC — 895.00

1872-Zs H 2½ Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-156, H-120, 1,300 minted, Abt. EF — 395.00

1881-M 2½ Pesos, Balance Scale, FR-148, H-119. Obverse field damaged above the 2, only 400 minted, EF — 390.00

1921 50 Pesos, FR-172, H-153, 180,400 minted, UNC — 375.00

1920 10 Pesos, FR-166, H-151, Ch AU $895.00; Ch UNC — 1,250.00

1905 5 Pesos, FR-167, H-150, 18,076 minted, AU/UNC — 595.00

1919, 20, 44, 45, 46 and 47, a real nice 8U set of 2 Pesos in black Capitol plastic holder, H-148, Y-55 — 275.00

1798 Virgin of Guadalupe Medal, 20 Pesos size, Grove #C-272, Fine — 275.00

1938 Aztec Calendar Medal, 20 Pesos size, Grove #696, only 7 minted, minor rim marks, UNC — 800.00

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contact me if you have any of the above items for sale. I am willing, if necessary, to buy whole collections to obtain the pieces I need.

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